

## Senate Resolution 574

By: Senator Pearson of the 51st

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending The Marksmen Quartet on the occasion of their 40th anniversary; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 2007, The Marksmen Quartet of Murrayville celebrate their 40th anniversary  
4 of sharing their talents on the stage, through radio and television broadcasts, and audio  
5 recordings with the vocal and compositional artistry that continues to distinguish their home  
6 state of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, from his early days as a Southern Gospel music mainstay, Dr. Earle Wheeler  
8 has led some of Georgia's finest quartet singers and musicians in venues such as the televised  
9 *Gospel Singing Jubilee* to the stages of the Grand Ole Opry and many of the famous All  
10 Night Sings, promoted by Southern Gospel Music Hall of Famer J.G. Whitfield; and

11 WHEREAS, in the 1970's, the Marksmen's musical sound moved toward the traditional  
12 music of the North Georgia Mountains, opening up an entirely new creative direction for  
13 gospel quartets and creating a performance that many quartets now imitate; and

14 WHEREAS, in recognition of their outstanding musical accomplishments, The Marksmen  
15 Quartet have received 23 bluegrass and country music industry awards, including four  
16 Country Gospel Quartet of the Year awards and four Gospel Bluegrass Band of the Year  
17 (Contemporary) Awards; and

18 WHEREAS, The Marksmen Quartet have enriched the radio airways and the collections of  
19 countless gospel music fans with 40 album releases, including more than 400 songs; and

20 WHEREAS, above any other goal, the group is dedicated to sharing the gospel of Jesus  
21 Christ through song with their millions of listeners worldwide; and

1 WHEREAS, the current members of The Marksmen Quartet are Earle Wheeler and his son  
2 Mark Wheeler, Darrin Chambers, and Davey Wailer; and

3 WHEREAS, the The Marksmen Quartet would not exist without the support of their loving  
4 families, and they continue a long tradition of Georgia gospel music honoring each former  
5 member of the group, including Frank Grindle, Sonny Seabolt, Little Roy Abee, Jr., Bobby  
6 Barnes, Jerry Phillips, Swayne Brown, David England, Keith Chambers, Mike Brooks,  
7 Darrell Bagwell, Doug Freeman, Rob Gillentine, Randall Franks, Nicky Powell, John Shook,  
8 and Tommy Dutton.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
10 commend The Marksmen Quartet of Murrayville, Georgia, on the occasion of their 40th  
11 anniversary, congratulate them on their years of musical excellence, and extend to them their  
12 sincerest best wishes for their future health and success.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
14 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to The Marksmen Quartet.